THE

PROTEST

OF THE

L---S,

UPON

A---- Her M---- for Her S---p:

WITH THE

Names of the L---ds.

(Price *Twopence*)

Die Sabbati 7. Junii 1712.

THE House was moved, That these Words might be added at the Close of a Motion for an Address upon Her Majesty's Speech, (*viz.*)

And in order to that, to pray Her Majesty to take such Measures in concert with her Allies, as may induce them to joyn with her Majesty in a mutual Guaranty.

After Debate, the Question was put, Whether those Words should be added?

It was Resolved in the Negative.

Dissentient

We think it necessary to have the Security proposed of a General Guaranty, and the rather, because We conceive the Terms of Peace that are offer'd, have proceeded from a seperate Negotiation, carried on by the Ministers with *France*, without any Communication to the Principal Allies, particularly the States General, as they say in their Letter to Her Majesty, (whose Interest Her Majesty was pleased to declare to this Parliament, she look'd upon as inseparable from Her own) and we Conceive this Negociation to be contrary to those Orders which Her Majesty Declared to this

this Houſe, in Anſwer to their Addreſs, That ſhe had given to Her Plenipotentiaries at *Utrecht*, to Concert with thoſe of Her Allies: And the Reſolution expreſſed in her Meſſage *Jan.* 17. of a ſtrict Union, in which ſhe propoſed to join with them, in order to obtain a good Peace, and to Guaranty and Support the ſame, as ſhe had before declared in her Speech at the opening of this Seſſion, That ſhe would Unite with them in the ſtricteſt Engagements for continuing the Alliance, in order to render the General Peace Secure and Laſting; and contrary to the Eighth Article of the Grand Alliance, which expreſly obliges all the Allies not to Treat, unleſs joyntly and with the Common Advice of the other Parties.

And we Conceive that the refuſal of theſe Words propoſed to be added, may be look'd upon by the Allies, as if this Houſe approved this Method of Tranſacting with *France*, may ſeem to them to tend to a ſeperate Peace, — of which her Majeſty has Declared her Diſlike, and which was acknowledg'd in this Houſe to be Fooliſh and Knaviſh) and would be of Pernicious Conſequence to this Kingdom, by preventing that Guaranty of Peace by the Allies, which is ſo abſolutely neceſſary for their mutual Security, and leave us expos'd to the Power of *France*, there being little reaſon to expect their future Help after ſuch a groſs Breach of Truſt.

And

And we further Conceive, That such a separate Proceeding may create in the Allies so great a Distrust, as may tempt them to take the like Measures, and so give the *French* opportunity to break that Union, which has hitherto been so useful to Us, and formidable to Them; any appearance whereof must encourage *France*, either to lay the Conclusion of a Peace, or to Impose upon the Allies in the further Progress of the Treaty.

A perfect Union among the Allies seems to Us to be more necessary in the present Case; Because the Foundation upon which all the Offers of *France* relating to *Great-Britain*, as well as to the Allies are built; (*viz.*) A Renunciation of the Duke of *Anjou* to that Kingdom, is, in our Opinion, so fallacious, that no reasonable Man, much less whole Nations, can never look upon it as any Security. Experience may sufficiently convince Us, how little we ought to rely upon the Renunciation of the House of *Bourbon*; and tho' the present Duke of *Anjou* should happen to think himself bound by his own Act, which his Grandfather did not, yet will his Descendants be at liberty to say, That no Act of his could deprive them of their Birth-Right, and especially when it is such a Right as in the Opinion of all *Frenchmen* ought inviolably to be maintain'd, by the Fundamental Constitution of the Kingdom of *France*.

And we humbly think it unsafe to depend upon this principal part of the Treaty's Executing it self, by supposing it will be the Interest of France *to Support it, since on the contrary, it is manifest by the* French *Endeavours ever since the* Pyrenean *Treaty, to Unite the Monarchies of* France *and* Spain. *They look upon that Union to be their greatest Interest, and the most effectual Means of Establishing the Universal Monarchy in the House of* Bourbon.

And if it were reasonable to imagine, that the two Crowns of France *and* Spain *should remain in distinct Branches of the House of* Bourbon; *yet this is contrary to the grand Alliance it self, which recites the Usurpation of the* Spanish *Monarchy by the French King for the Duke of* Anjou, *as the principal Cause of this War.*

As to Port Mahon, Gibraltar, *the* Assiento, *and the other Advantages to* Britain *proposed by* France *(besides that they are all precarious, and in the power of* France *and* Spain *to take from us when they please) considering the Situation of those Kingdoms, and the vast Wealth and Strength which will be left to them, we conceive it impossible for any Man to look on these as a Compensation to* Britain *in any Degree; for the leaving* Spain *and the* Indies *in the Possession of the House of* Bourbon, *besides other manifestly fatal Consequences,*

must

must be extreamly prejudicial to our Woollen Manufacture, if it does not entirely ruin it.

As to the Demolition of Dunkirk, *tho' we own it will be a great Safety to our Home-Trade, yet we have reason to apprehend by what was said in the Debate, that it is not yet agreed to be demolish'd, without an Equivalent for it to the* French *King's Satisfaction.*

And in all the Particulars relating to the Allies, tho' they are not perfectly adjusted, yet by what does appear concerning them, the Allies are likely to be left in such a state of Insecurity, as is absolutely inconsistent with our own Safety.

The Rhine *is proposed for a Barrier of the Empire, which leaves* Strasburgh *and* Hunninghen *in the Hands of the* French; *the former of which has always been look'd upon as the Key of the Empire.*

The Proposals of France *relating to the Barrier for the States General, not only deprives them of all the Places taken since the Year* 1709, *but also of two or three Places more included in the Demand made by the States in that Year, which will render their Barrier wholly insufficient, and consequently very much weaken the Security of* Britain.

Portugal *seems to be wholly abandoned to the Power of Spain, notwithstanding the great Advantages we have receiv'd during this War by our*

Trade

Trade with that Kingdom, which might ſtill be extreamly Beneficial to us.

Upon the whole, there is ſo very little and inconſiderable a difference between theſe Offers of France, *and thoſe made at* Utrecht, February *the* 11th N. S. *and Sign'd* Huxelles *(as appears to us upon comparing them together) that both ſeem to be the Effect of a ſecret and particular Negociation with* France, *and this Houſe having unanimouſly concurred in expreſſing to Her Majeſty their utmoſt Reſentment at thoſe Terms offered to Her Majeſty and Her Allies by the Plenipotentiaries of* France; *and Her Majeſty having graciouſly accepted that our Addreſs, and rewarded that Duty and Zeal with Her hearty Thanks, we cannot in Reſpect to Her Majeſty, or Juſtice to our Country, retract that Opinion, nor think the Terms now, good for Us or the Allies, or give any ſeeming approbation of them, which then were receiv'd by this Houſe, and all the Allies, with Scorn and Deteſtation.*

For theſe Reaſons, we are of Opinion that the Offers of France *are Fallacious and Inſnaring, no way proportioned to the advantages which Her Majeſty (from the great Succeſſes which it has pleaſed God to bleſs Her and Her Allies during the whole Courſe of this War) might juſtly expect for Her own Kingdoms, and for Them, very unſufficient for preſerving a Ballance of Power in* Europe *for the future Security of Her Majeſty and Her Allies,*

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tho' they should be never so exactly perform'd, and yet, even such as they are, there is no effectual Security offer'd for the performance of them, which makes it absolutely necessary, as we conceive, that such Measures should be taken, in concert with the Allies, as may induce them to join with Her Majesty in a mutual Guaranty.

S——t, B——n, S——h,
G——n, W——m, B——r,
D——e, M——h, M——n,
B——y, D——r, T——d,
W. O-n, J. B——r, C——r,
J. E——y, R——d; M——u,
H——m, N——m, L——n
S——k, C——e, B——d,
W, A--h, ——. ——

F I N I S.